

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/538,429

Examiner

Kiran B. Patel

Applicant(s)

BOEHM, MARKUS

Art Unit

3612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/13/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 17-32.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Examiner's Amendment and
Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
Allowance (11/13/06)

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for the following Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kaplun 11/13/06.

2. The claims and/or the application was further amended to read as follows:

1-16. Cancelled.

17. (Presently Amended) A wall structure, comprising:

a layered arrangement including a top layer, a hollow layer and a bottom layer, the top layer being oriented towards an interior of a vehicle, the hollow layer being oriented towards a ventilation system so that a heat energy is one of (i) removed from and (ii) supplied to the top layer using an air-flow, wherein the top layer includes a surface layer and a separating layer, the separating layer being an air-permeable layer and adjoining the hollow layer.

18. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the wall structure is a control panel for the interiors of the vehicle.
19. (Presently Amended) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the top layer includes a further layered arrangement which has a surface layer, a foam layer and the separating layer .
20. (Original) The wall structure of claim 19, wherein the surface layer consists of at least one of a synthetic slush skin, a cast synthetic skin and leather.
21. (Original) The wall structure of claim 19, wherein the foam layer consists of a polyurethane foam.
22. (Presently Amended) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the separating layer consists of at least one of a plastics material and a metal material.
23. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the top layer and the bottom layer are connected by webs.
24. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the bottom layer consists of at least one of a plastics material, a wood material and a metal material.

25. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the top layer is covered on a side pointing away from the hollow layer, with an insulating layer.

26. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the ventilation system is an air-conditioning system of the vehicle.

27. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the wall structure is between 6 and 12 mm thick.

28. (Original) The wall structure of claim 17, wherein the wall structure is a part of one of (i) a control panel, (ii) a floor, (iii) a roof, (iv) a side part and (v) an end wall of the vehicle.

29. (Presently Amended) A method for manufacturing a wall structure which includes a layered arrangement, comprising:

interconnecting a bottom layer of the arrangement and a top layer of the arrangement at a spacing from one another so that a hollow layer of the arrangement remains between the bottom and top layers for air conduction,

wherein the top layer is oriented towards an interior of a vehicle, the hollow layer being oriented towards a ventilation system so that a heat energy is one of (i) removed from and (ii) supplied to the top layer using an air-flow, and wherein the top layer includes a surface layer and a separating layer; the separating layer being an air-permeable layer and adjoining the hollow layer.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the spacing of the bottom and top layers exists due to webs of at least one of the top layer and the bottom layer.

31. (Presently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising:
filling a region between the surface layer and the separating layer with a foam material to form the top layer; and
inserting the surface layer and the separating layer into a foaming tool at a spacing from one another before the filling step.

32. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising:
perforating the separating layer before the top and bottom layers are joined together.

3. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of the claims in this case, is the inclusion of the limitation "a layered arrangement including a top layer, a hollow layer and a bottom layer, the top layer being oriented towards an interior of a vehicle, the hollow layer being oriented towards a ventilation system so that a heat energy is one of (i) removed from and (ii) supplied to the top layer using an air-flow, wherein the top layer includes a surface layer and a separating layer, the separating layer being an air-permeable layer and adjoining the hollow layer" in the independent claim, in combination with the other recited limitations in claims supported by this application, which are not found in the prior art of record.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Primary Examiner Kiran B. Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-6665. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 to 5:00. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.



Kiran B. Patel, P. E.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3612
November 13, 2006